



CITIZENS ON WATCH



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Goodyear Assist with Officer Shooting

On 9/14/13, Goodyear Dispatch received an emergency call for assistance from Avondale Dispatch in reference to an Officer that had just been shot. Goodyear responded to the location and discovered the Avondale Officer had been shot in the face while attempting contact a subject on a bike. The injured Officer was an Officer in Training and his Field Training Officer was able to return fire and struck the subject. The subject was able to ride his bicycle approximately 100 yards south on 3rd St before falling off his bike. The Officer was air lifted to the hospital and survived his injury. The suspect was transported to another hospital but ultimately died from his wounds.

While Goodyear was assisting with two separate crime scenes, a second subject arrived on scene and proceeded to threaten officers with a weapon. The subject continued to threaten officers by continually approaching officers holding the weapon. After approximately 20 minutes of trying to de-escalate the situation, the subject approached an Avondale Officer in a threatening manner asking to be shot. An arrest team approached to apprehend the subject, he made an aggressive move with the weapon. A Taser was deployed on the subject which had only a temporary affect. The subject again went for the weapon, at which time a K9 was deployed. The subject was taken into custody and was transported to West Valley for injuries sustained during the bite and will be booked in jail for aggravated assault. Phoenix PD arrived on scene and assumed the investigation.

Negotiator talks woman down

Officers recently responded to a violent family fight with injuries. The boyfriend advised that his girlfriend had intentionally cut herself severely and locked herself in the garage. Officers discovered blood on the floor in several areas of the house. Officers were forced to gain entry by kicking the entry door open. The girlfriend was located in the attic and initially refused to come out. A Goodyear trained negotiator was on scene and talked with her. The negotiator was able to convince her to come down from the attic. The fire department was on scene to treat her non-life threatening injuries and then transported her to West Valley Hospital for evaluation. The Goodyear Police have several negotiators who are able to assist in multiple types of calls.

Goodyear Detectives Busy

During the month of September Goodyear Detectives made several arrests in multiple burglary cases. Based on a tip from a citizen in Canyon Trails, two individuals were arrested and linked to six different burglaries. After further investigation one of the subjects was found to be involved in 16 separate burglaries. A Palm Valley Community citizen provided information on a suspicious vehicle. The vehicle was later located and placed under surveillance. During a traffic stop with the vehicle evidence of a recent burglary was located and the vehicle was seized. Four separate search warrants were served leading to the arrest of two subjects and the clearing of five separate burglaries. Calling in suspicious activity is effective. Detectives want to also pass on that it can take three to six months to return property based on court procedures.

Special Olympics Event

The Goodyear police and fire departments are hosting the 2nd annual Special Olympics Softball Tournament at the **Goodyear Ballpark from 12pm to 8pm on October 12th**. This event will feature softball games with Special Olympic Athletes competing on a professional baseball field. The excitement builds with a Home-Run Derby at 4:30pm and a championship game at 6pm with the Special Olympic athletes challenging the police department. This event is free and donations to benefit the Special Olympics Arizona will be accepted at the gates. The event will also include numerous family-friendly activities throughout the day, including a **Goodyear Police K-9 demonstration**, community expo with various local businesses, Bar-B-Q.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The annual campaign is to increase awareness of the disease. While most people are aware of breast cancer, many forget to take the steps to have a plan to detect the disease in its early stages and encourage others to do the same. Progress has been made but there is still a long way to go!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT	OCT 12
RED ROBIN TIP-A-COP	OCT 12
GAIN	OCT 17

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5 Health Insurance Scams

By Carole Moore (Article published in www.nasdaq.com on 09/30/2013)

Medical and health insurance scams are rampant. Both government and private initiatives have renewed their focus on preventing health insurance fraud and abuse. Michael Williams, director of communications and membership of the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, says new and better technology, improved awareness, and more widely available information combine to combat fraud. Williams adds that while the majority of physicians run honest practices, consumers must also step up to the plate to prevent fraud.

"Pay attention, do your research, read your EOBs (explanations of benefits) and beware of free offers," he says. Read on to discover some of the most common health insurance scams making the rounds and ways experts like Williams say you can guard against becoming another victim.

Fake insurance policies

Like counterfeit money, bogus health insurance is not only circulating, but it's becoming increasingly common. James Quiggle, communications director of the Coalition against Insurance Fraud (CAIF), says fake policies are particularly virulent.

"These crooks come out of the woodwork and promise affordable premiums, no medical exams and guaranteed acceptance," Quiggle says, adding that the criminals who offer worthless policies often operate through sophisticated networks with strong marketing arms and money-laundering components. Many times they can be tied to organized crime.

Often, these con artists target small businesses, unions and associations. It's only when a policyholder needs the insurance that the game's up.

How to spot the scam: Use common sense, says Quiggle. Check with your state's department of insurance to see if the company is properly licensed. And remember, if it seems too good to be true, it most likely is.

What to do: If your policy is through an organization, report fraud to someone within the organization. Also, report the fraud to the Federal Trade Commission at FTC.gov and your state's department of insurance.

Bogus "Obamacare" Policies

With the phased-in implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, known more commonly as Obamacare, hucksters by the thousands have surfaced. Reports of program-related scams have flooded in from all over the country, according to Thomas M. Devlin, chief deputy attorney general for the Health Care section of the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office. One prominent health insurance scam involves the criminals calling victims and trying to con them out of personal information.

"They're trying to tell people they're going to be issued a national health card and they need their Social Security numbers and bank account numbers; essentially, it's an identity theft type of scam," Devlin says.

"Be aware that the government is not going to solicit information over the phone or through email," he warns. How to spot the scam: Any effort to solicit information from you for national health care should be regarded as suspicious. Don't respond to emails, and hang up on the callers.

What to do: Report your complaint to the Federal Trade Commission.

Medicare and Medicaid Fraud

The Coalition against Insurance Fraud says that in 2007 alone, Medicare and Medicaid made an estimated \$23.7 billion in improper payments. Medicare accounted for \$10.8 billion of that amount. However, as baby boomers get older, the number of seniors joining the program is expected to grow, so those numbers are expected to rapidly expand.

Jeff Young, vice president of fraud control at Verisk Health, says Medicare and Medicaid fraud generally begin at a practitioner's office. The staff members may order tests the patient's condition doesn't warrant, "upcode" or falsify what procedure the patient receives, or bill for nonexistent hours -- "double bill" -- among other illegal practices.

Although these don't necessarily impact the patient out of pocket, it can come back to haunt patients who really do need a medical procedure at some future point, and who could be denied the service based on false evidence. And, of course, there is also the moral issue of ripping off taxpayers.

"Ask questions as a consumer: 'Why do I need this (procedure)?' Get the answers upfront," says Young.

How to spot the scam: While explanations of benefits, or EOBs, can be complicated, always read through them.

What to do: If you spot an error, contact your insurer, either Medicare or Medicaid.

Medical discount card scams

A few years ago, the state of California joined Massachusetts in taking on the sellers of unscrupulous medical discount cards. Presented as a substitute for health insurance or a way to obtain discounts for everything from eye exams to dental work, the cards target mostly poor communities and are often useless. Experts say they expect to see more of these offers in the future.

These cards provide fake lists of providers, phony discounts, and high fees that aren't readily apparent and often mimic health insurance but provide no actual benefits. Ads for them can be found all over the Internet and in print and televised media. Dr. Deborah C. Peel, a physician and founder of the nonprofit Patient Privacy Rights, says beware when those selling such cards try and get you to divulge personal information, like your Social Security number.

"Always question why someone needs that information," Peel warns.

How to spot the scam: If you find a discount card you like, research it. If you discover complaints, hidden fees, false or overblown promises, or exorbitant costs, run fast in the opposite direction.

What to do: If you've already signed on with a company that's sold you a bogus discount card, contact your local state department of insurance.

Employers without worker's comp

Most workers don't think about having workers' compensation insurance until they need it, but an on-the-job injury could leave them in a financial bind. And, some employers don't carry workers' compensation coverage

even though they are mandated to do so by law. This year, North Carolina state auditor Beth Wood reported that more than 11,000 businesses in her state canceled coverage or let it lapse. That meant about 30,000 employers required to carry workers' compensation insurance were without it.

Quiggle says lack of workers' compensation coverage is particularly rampant in certain industries, such as construction.

"When a worker falls off the roof and wakes up in the hospital, he ends up finding he's not covered by workers' comp," Quiggle says. It's a rude awakening to a health insurance scam in which the employer is the culprit.

How to spot the scam: Your employer should be happy to provide copies of its policies and procedures for on-the-job injuries. If it hasn't or if another worker has an accident and finds he or she isn't covered, then you probably aren't covered, either.

What to do: Report this health insurance scam to your state department of insurance.